

Filed for intro on 01/26/2000

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 404
By Hagood

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Eric Puster on becoming an Eagle Scout.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this legislative body should pause in its deliberations to recognize our youths for their commitment to the development of character, self-reliance and leadership; and

WHEREAS, at a time when the youth of our country face tremendous challenges, the Boy Scouts of America is one of this nation's greatest assets, providing young people, ages six to twenty, with an educational program geared toward character development, citizenship training, and improved mental and physical fitness; and

WHEREAS, the highest rank a Boy Scout can attain is that of Eagle Scout and Eric Puster, after considerable efforts and diligent preparation, has joined the prestigious Eagle Court of Honor; and

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WHEREAS, Eric is a senior, honor student at West High School, where he has excelled, both academically and in extracurricular activities, including his participation in the school choir; and

WHEREAS, he was twice honored as being selected as a member of the All-State Chorus in 1998 and in 2000 for his outstanding vocal talents; and

WHEREAS, Eric's exemplary record of accomplishment as a member of his Boy Scout troop includes having earned more than twenty-one (21) merit badges and having exhibited excellent leadership; and

WHEREAS, Eric's Eagle project benefited his community and the state of Tennessee, and reflected the fine traditions of the Volunteer State as he planned, developed, and executed his project for the historic homeplace of John Sevier, the first governor of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, Eric's project succeeded in improving the front entrance of the Sevier home by creating a wall built out of railroad ties on each side, thus providing an aesthetic area for growing plants; and

WHEREAS, Illustrative of his commitment to maintaining this historically beautiful site, Eric Puster researched the plants to be used for the garden so as to resemble the flora present some 200 years ago; and

WHEREAS, before turning 18 years of age, a young man must earn twenty-one (21) merit badges to be considered for the honor of being an Eagle Scout; twelve (12) merit badges are from a required list, and nine (9) merit badges of his choice; and

WHEREAS, requirements for Eagle Scout also include a demonstration of the Scout spirit by living the Scout Oath; and

WHEREAS, a Scout must serve in leadership positions within the troop, planning, executing a Eagle Project, that is helpful to a religious institution, school, or his community; and

WHEREAS, an Eagle Scout receives approval of his project from the Scoutmaster, Troop Committee, and Council before he embarks upon the momentous plan; and

WHEREAS, all Eagle Scouts have a scoutmaster conference, and must successfully complete an Eagle Board of Review; and

WHEREAS, Eric achieved all of these goals, and more, as the conscientious young man that he is; and

WHEREAS, young men of honor and integrity, which exemplify the true spirit of America, faithfully deserve this body's commendation; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we hereby honor and congratulate Eric Puster on becoming an Eagle Scout and wish him much continued success in his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.